

IN THE CLAIMS

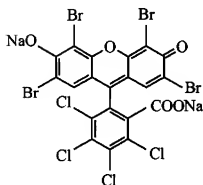
Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listing of claims in the application.

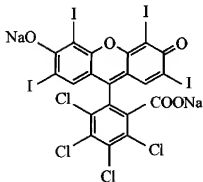
Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for assaying albumin in a urine sample by using a protein assay indicator,

wherein a compound having a chemical structure expressed by one of the following Chemical Formulas (1)-1 and (1)-2 is used as the protein assay indicator:



(1)-1



(1)-2

wherein the albumin in the urine sample is assayed in a solution having a pH equal to or below the pKa of the protein indicator,

wherein the protein assay indicator in the solution is from colorless to light orange in color when no the albumin is not present in the solution, ~~and~~

wherein the protein assay indicator in the solution is from red to purple in color when the albumin is present in the solution[[.]],

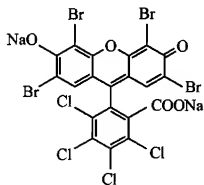
wherein the urine sample is assayed for the albumin in an amount between 10 and 20 mg/dL in the urine sample.

wherein the protein assay indicator is used in the presence of a sensitizer, and

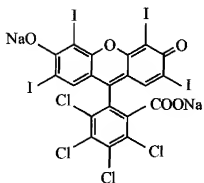
wherein the sensitizer is a compound that increases the coloration sensitivity of the protein assay indicator with respect to albumin present in the solution as compared to the coloration sensitivity of the protein assay indicator with respect to albumin present in the solution in the absence of the sensitizer.

2.-12. (Canceled)

13. (Currently Amended) A test piece used for quantifying or semi-quantifying albumin in urine, wherein a compound having a chemical structure expressed by one of the following Chemical Formulas (3)-1 and (3)-2 is used as a protein assay indicator:



(3)-1



(3)-2

wherein the protein assay indicator in a solution is from colorless to light orange in color when ~~no~~ the albumin is not present in the solution,

wherein the protein assay indicator in the solution is from red to purple in color when the albumin is present in the solution, ~~and~~

wherein the solution has a pH equal to or below the pKa of the protein indicator[[.]],

wherein the test piece further contains a sensitizer, and

wherein the sensitizer is a compound that increases the coloration sensitivity of the protein assay indicator with respect to albumin present in the solution as compared to the coloration sensitivity of the protein assay indicator with respect to albumin present in the solution in the absence of the sensitizer.

14.-18. (Canceled)

19. (Currently Amended) The test piece according to claim [[18]]13, ~~containing~~ wherein the sensitizer comprises at least one selected from the group consisting of polyethylene glycol and polypropylene glycol ~~as the sensitizer.~~

20. (New) The method according to claim 1, wherein ~~the~~ sensitizer comprises at least one selected from the group consisting of polyethylene glycol and polypropylene glycol.